



## Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

15 December 2005

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: December 15, 2005

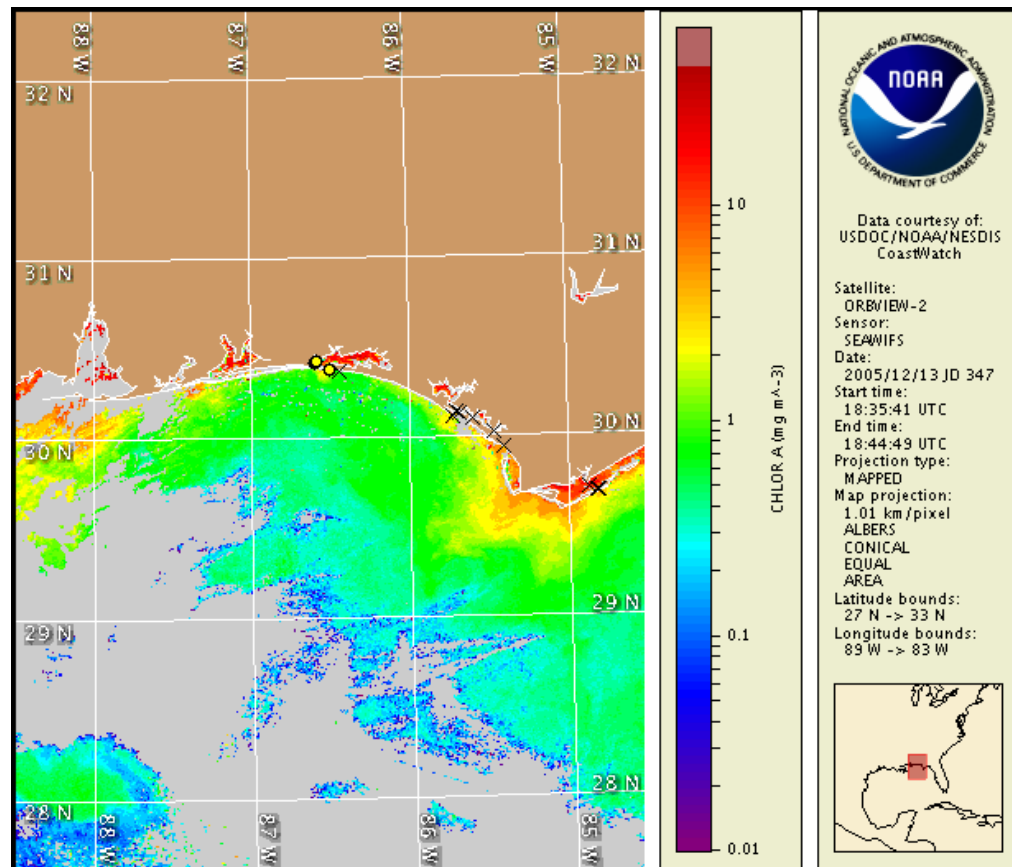
### Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified in patches at Okaloosa and Walton Counties. The following patchy impacts are possible in Okaloosa: low to moderate impacts today followed by no impacts through Monday. No impacts are expected in Walton County through Monday.

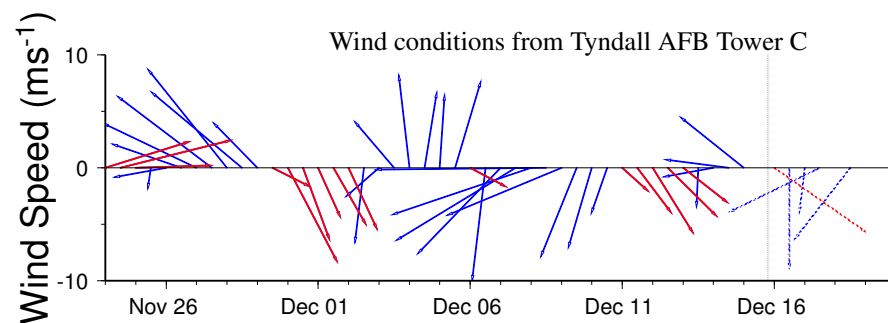
### Analysis

The bloom in the Panhandle continues to weaken onshore. Samples indicate *K. brevis* is not present at some of the repetitive sampling locations in Okaloosa and Franklin Counties (12/12; FWRI). Compared to the last bulletin, there is no further evidence of the elevated chlorophyll patch offshore of St. Joseph Bay. In addition, chlorophyll levels have decreased around Gulf and Franklin Counties. Okaloosa currently has a mixed diatom bloom (12/12; FWRI). Strong, variable winds today could increase the likelihood of impacts. Offshore winds on Thursday, Friday, Sunday and Monday may continue dissipation.

Fenstermacher & Keller



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).

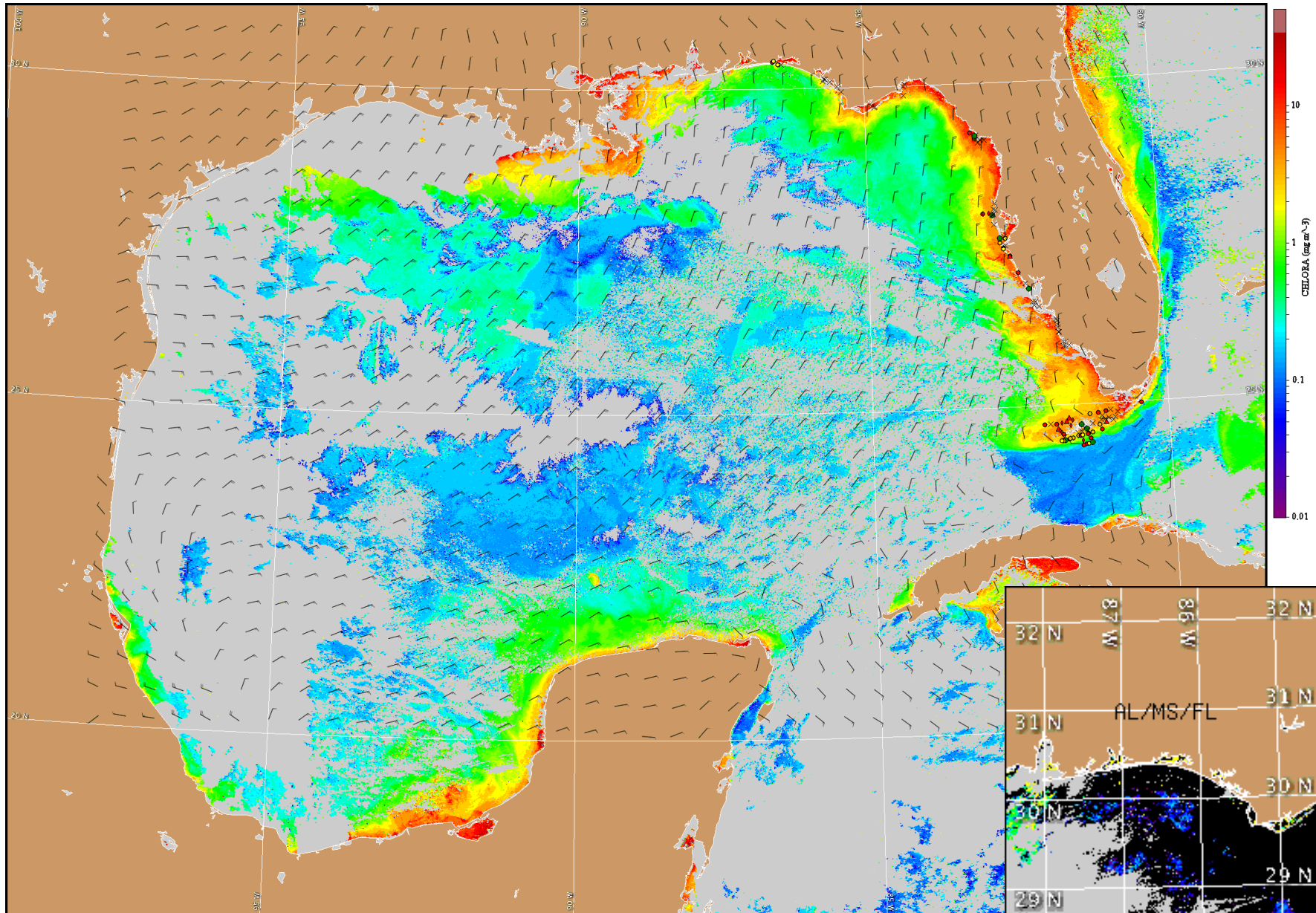


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

NW Florida: Strong variable winds today (15-25 knots; 8-13 m/s) followed by northerlies tonight and Friday (10-15 knots; 3-5 m/s). Northeasterlies on Friday night through Saturday morning followed by easterlies in the evening (10-15 knots; 3-5 m/s). Northerlies on Sunday and Monday (15-20 knots; 5-8 m/s).

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Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for December 16, 2005 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from December 5-8 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).